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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: POTTER, J.)
Serial No. 09/608,816)
Filed: June 30, 2000)
Title: Prefabricated Modular Deck System)

PATENT

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:
Preliminary
Amendment

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2001

Before any Office Action is issued on the above-captioned application, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment to the specification:

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

In the Claims

Please add claims 4 – 17 as follows:

4. (new) A modular deck panel for a deck structure including a plurality of horizontal support elements, said modular deck panel comprising:

a first substantially planar element being relatively inflexible and of a material selected from among the group including: stone, mineral, tile, and concrete product; and

a second substantially planar element of a material different than the first planar element, said second planar element being disposed beneath the first planar element and coupled thereto, said second planar element having a predetermined total area, said second planar element supporting the deck panel upon the deck structure at a panel support area, said panel support area being substantially smaller than the predetermined total area, and said second planar element carrying substantially all of a tensile load imposed upon the deck panel.

5. (new) A modular deck panel of claim 4 wherein the first planar element is adhesively secured to the second planar element.

6. (new) A modular deck panel of claim 4 wherein the second planar element is of a composite material.

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